

Filed for intro on 02/15/95  
Senate Bill \_\_\_\_\_  
By \_\_\_\_\_

House No. HJR0081  
By Davidson

A RESOLUTION to create a special joint committee to review, examine and evaluate the needs of disabled students in the state's public schools, the impact of required services, and to formulate alternative ways to provide medical or related services.

WHEREAS, local education agencies are faced with increasing numbers of medically fragile or technologically dependent children; and

WHEREAS, teachers are being required to provide medically fragile or technologically dependent children with services including, but not limited to, clean intermittent catheterization, diapering, blood glucose determinations, Crede's Maneuver, nasopharyngeal suctioning, tracheostomy suctioning; and

WHEREAS, teachers handling body fluids are at high risk of exposure to disease, both diagnosed and undiagnosed; and

WHEREAS, the educational philosophy of inclusion for disabled students means that medically fragile or technologically dependent children will be attending regular schools and regular classes; and

WHEREAS, the necessary care of such students takes away traditional teaching time and requires teachers to become part time health care professionals; and

WHEREAS, it is vital to continued improvement of Tennessee's education system that the state maximize the productivity of teachers in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, it is vital to a strong state economy that the state maintain and progressively seek to maximize the potential of all students; and

WHEREAS, this state must seek to understand how to best address the services required for these students, the technology requirements, and the means to free teachers to teach; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That there is hereby created a special joint committee to review the specialized health care needs of medically fragile or technologically dependent children in the state's public schools and to examine and evaluate alternative ways to provide personnel or services that will reduce or eliminate the involvement of classroom teachers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That during the course of its deliberations, the special joint committee shall also;

(1) review and estimate future costs of services and personnel to local education agencies;

(2) ascertain whether required services can be provided by school system health personnel or in a cooperative effort between school and public health agencies or officials; and

(3) draft and propose legislation to ensure that disabled students educated in regular classrooms will receive necessary services and educational benefit while preserving the integrity of the state's education system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special joint committee shall be composed of the following members:

three (3) members of the House of Representatives, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; three (3) members of the Senate, to be appointed by the Speaker of the Senate; the Comptroller of the Treasury or the Comptroller's designee; the Commissioner of Finance and Administration or the commissioner's designee; the Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's designee; the Executive Director of the State Board of Education or the executive director's designee; one (1) representative of the Tennessee Education Association; one (1) representative of the Tennessee School Boards Association; one (1) representative of the Tennessee Organization of School superintendents; and one (1) representative of the Tennessee Nurses Association.

The non-legislative members of the special joint committee shall be appointed by the association or other organization which they represent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the special joint committee upon request of the chair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all legislative members of the special joint committee shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly and shall be paid as members of the General Assembly are paid for attending legislative meetings as provided in Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-1-106.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special joint committee shall be convened by the members with the most years of continuous service in the General Assembly, and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and any other officers the committee deems necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special joint committee shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation or interim reports, to the Ninety-ninth General Assembly no later than February 1, 1996, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.



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